

DeForest Area School District

Policy on District-Provided Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks Students

Computer networks, including the Internet, offer vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing these services to staff and students is to promote learning by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

It is impossible to control all materials on a global network. With worldwide access to computers comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. However, we believe that students need to have access to the valuable information and interaction available on a network despite the possibility that they may obtain material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the District.

The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the students who must adhere to strict guidelines. The guidelines are provided below. In general this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources for academic purposes only.

Acceptable Use

The network hardware and software is the property of the DeForest Area School District. The use of an account must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the DeForest Area School District. Use of other organization's network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any United States or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. Use for commercial activity is prohibited. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.

Network Etiquette/Rules

Students are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other abusive language.
2. Do not reveal your personal address or phone number to students or colleagues.
3. Do not share your password and do not use others' accounts.
4. All information, e-mail, and data stored on the network should be assumed to be property of DeForest Area School District and is not private. People who operate the system do have access to your files and any material relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
5. Do not use the network to harm or harass others, e.g. sending unwanted e-mail/chain e-mail messages.
6. Do not use the network in such a way that would disrupt the use of the network by other.
7. Possessing and/or executing unauthorized programs on district workstations is prohibited.

Security

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. Students must notify their teacher of security problems. Students should not demonstrate the problem to other students. Students shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the network.

Vandalism/Harassment

Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy hardware, software, wiring, or the data of another user. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Harassment is defined as the persistent annoyance of another user, or the interference of another user's work. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, the sending of unwanted mail.

Responsibility/Consequences

As students use this network, it is essential that each user on the network recognize his or her responsibility in having access to the vast services, sites, and people the network provides. The user is ultimately responsible for his or her actions in accessing network services, and for adhering to District access policies, other District policies that may apply, and building discipline procedures. If a DeForest Area School District user violates these provisions, his or her account may be terminated and future access could be limited or denied.

Disclaimer

DeForest Area School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or user's errors or omissions. The DeForest Area School District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.
